

THE LAST *PHYSINGA* LINDLEY (ORCHIDACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

In rejoining *Physinga* Lindley with *Epidendrum* L., one Brazilian species has been left without an applicable name in *Epidendrum*. Hence, the combination *Epidendrum acreense* (Brieger & Bicalho) E.A. Christenson is proposed.

KEY WORDS: Brazil, *Epidendrum*, *Physinga*, nomenclature, Orchidaceae

The genus *Epidendrum* L. is one of the largest Neotropical orchid genera with more than 1,000 species recorded from the southern United States, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Because of its size and diversity, many attempts have been made to divide *Epidendrum* into smaller units with varying success (Hagsater 1985). Some of these segregate genera are now well established, such as *Barkeria* Know. & Westc., *Encyclia* W.J. Hook., *Jacquinella* Schltr., and *Oerstedella* Reichb. f. Others have been generally rejected by consensus, such as *Auliza* Salisb., *Lanium* Lindl., *Nanodes* Lindl., and *Neolehmannia* Kraenzl.

One segregate genus, *Physinga* Lindley, was resurrected by Brieger & Bicalho (1978) for a group of species having long flexuous inflorescences, sequential solitary flowers, a prominent vesicle, and usually a long clinandrium. While defining a cohesive species group, the characters are not worthy of generic recognition (Hagsater 1985, 1987). In eliminating *Physinga*, authors "orphaned" one Brazilian species without an applicable name in *Epidendrum*. The combination is made here:

Epidendrum acreense (Brieger & Bicalho) E.A. Christenson, *comb. nov.*
BASIONYM: *Physinga acrensis* Brieger & Bicalho, *Bradea* 2(34):234. 1978.

LITERATURE CITED

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